

The background is a vertical gradient from light purple at the top to light blue at the bottom. Scattered across the background are numerous water droplets of various sizes, some with highlights and shadows, giving them a 3D appearance. The main title is centered in a large, bold, black sans-serif font.

DEMYSTIFYING “SAFE-SPACE”

*PRESENTED BY: DR. DAVID L. EVERETT
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A stage set featuring a white backdrop flanked by red curtains with gold-colored valances and side panels. The stage is framed by a light purple background with water droplets in the top left and a light blue background with water droplets in the bottom right.

SETTING THE STAGE



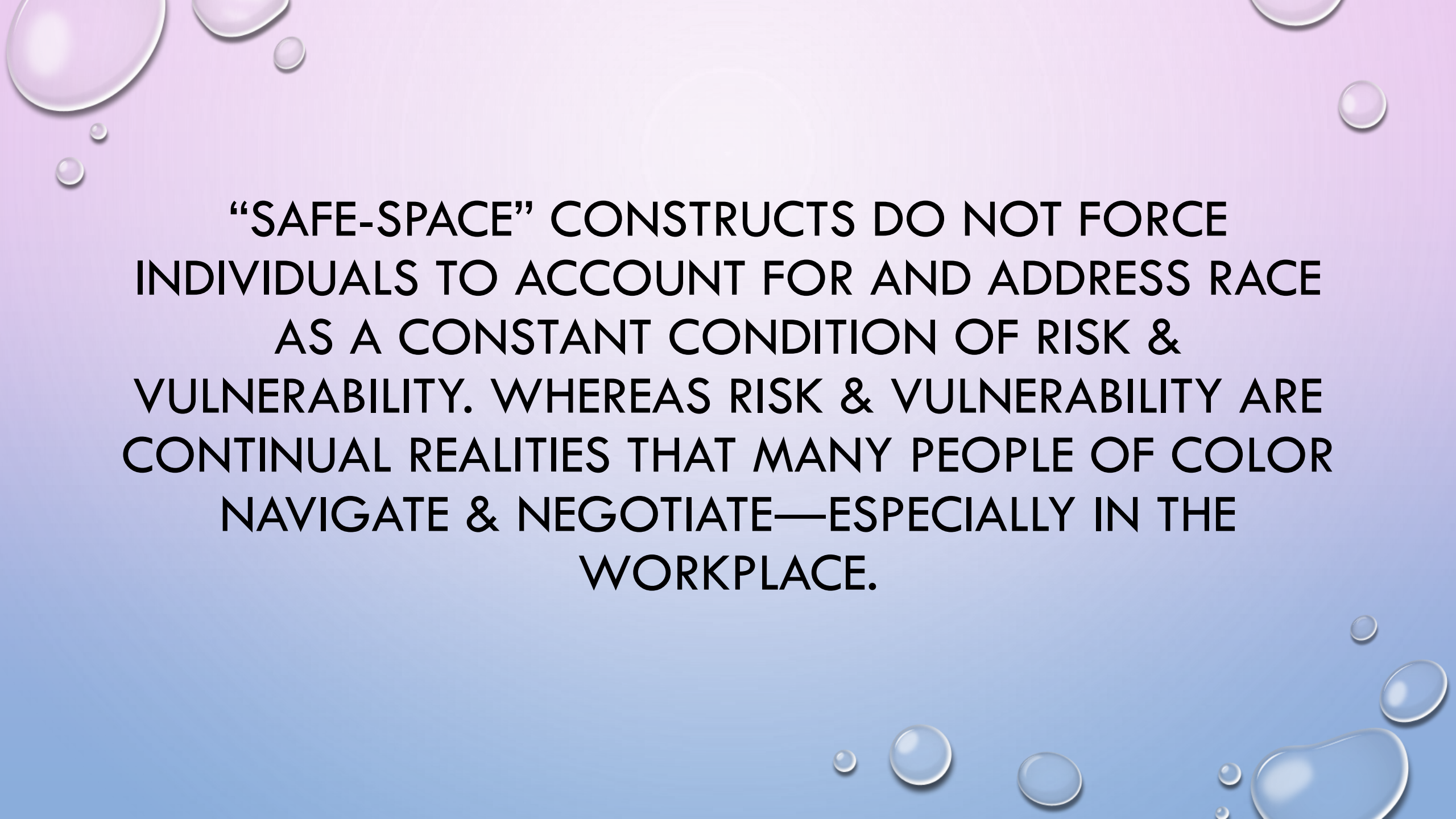
WHAT IS “SAFE-SPACE?”

WHY IS IMPORTANT?

ARGUMENT



*THE CONDITION AND PROCEDURAL PRACTICE OF
“SAFE-SPACE” AROUND UNCOMFORTABLE
DIALOGUE—PARTICULARLY AS IT RELATES TO RACE,
CULTURE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION—MAINTAINS
COMFORT ZONES AND BECOMES SYMBOLIC FORMS OF
RELATIONAL RELUCTANCE & CONDITIONAL INTERACTION.*



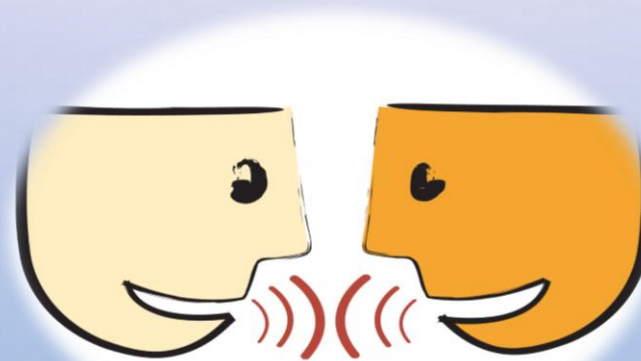
**“SAFE-SPACE” CONSTRUCTS DO NOT FORCE
INDIVIDUALS TO ACCOUNT FOR AND ADDRESS RACE
AS A CONSTANT CONDITION OF RISK &
VULNERABILITY. WHEREAS RISK & VULNERABILITY ARE
CONTINUAL REALITIES THAT MANY PEOPLE OF COLOR
NAVIGATE & NEGOTIATE—ESPECIALLY IN THE
WORKPLACE.**



So the question
becomes...

Safe from *WHAT?*

“SAFE-SPACE” BECOMES A WAY TO SIDE STEP RISK & VULNERABILITY, AS WELL AS THE EDUCATIVE ASPECTS OF ANGER & FRUSTRATION, NECESSARY FOR BENEFICIAL AND TRANSFORMATIONAL DIALOGUE TO OCCUR.



RESULT

- *MAJORITY GROUPS FAIL TO COMMIT W/O RESERVATION*
- *MARGINALIZED GROUPS RECEIVE NO VALIDATION*
- *ENCOURAGES “PEACEFUL COMPROMISE” WITHOUT THE CRITICAL INTERROGATION NECESSARY TO EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE & LEARN ACROSS CULTURES*



TO COMBAT THIS, *AUTHENTIC ENGAGEMENT*, RATHER THAN *INTENTIONAL OR UNINTENTIONAL AVOIDANCE*, IS REQUIRED TO ENSURE THAT THE EFFECTIVE CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION TAKES PLACE.





WHAT IS AUTHENTIC ENGAGEMENT?



Thoughts & Comments

